

2008

Debate '08 Program

Belmont University

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PROGRAM

GUIDE

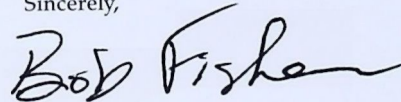
Last November I stood with Tennessee Governor Phil Bredesen, Nashville Mayor Karl Dean, Chairman of Curb Records Mike Curb, and several other dignitaries to announce that Belmont would host the Town Hall Presidential Debate in the Curb Event Center on October 7, 2008. Since then, Belmont faculty and staff and many members of the Nashville community have devoted countless hours in careful thought and hard work to ensure that this Debate would both show Nashville at its very best and be a vital learning tool for students and residents city and state-wide throughout the 2008-09 academic year.

In his letter to the Commission on Presidential Debates (CPD) in support of Belmont's bid to host a debate, Governor Bredesen wrote, "The Presidential Debates would find a compatible home at Belmont University where students with inquisitive minds take their roles as future citizens of our community, nation and world very seriously." Nearly 100 programs and special events have been planned specifically to enlighten our students and celebrate this honor with our community. We are proud to have been chosen to host this Debate and are deeply honored that you are sharing this experience with us.

This is the first Presidential Debate to be held in Tennessee, and we are celebrating our role in the historic 2008 presidential election. Thank you for supporting Belmont during this unforgettable time in the university's history. We are grateful to all of our friends in Nashville and Tennessee who have devoted their time and resources toward this Debate. This evening and all of the surrounding programming truly represent a community effort.

For many years our motto at Belmont University has been "From Here to Anywhere." This past year it has morphed into "From Here to the White House." Thank you for joining us for the journey!

Sincerely,



Bob Fisher
President, Belmont University



BELMONT
UNIVERSITY

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★ **HONORARY HOST COMMITTEE**

The Honorary Host Committee for the 2008 Town Hall Presidential Debate at Belmont University is made up of distinguished individuals with national, state and local stature. Marty Dickens, chairman of the Board of Trustees and retired president of AT&T, serves as chair of the Honorary Host Committee with Tennessee Governor Phil Bredesen, Nashville Mayor Karl Dean and Chairman of Curb Records Mike Curb as the committee's honorary chairs.

Members of the committee include former and current Tennessee and United States Senators and Congressmen, business leaders, music industry executives, religious leaders, recording artists, the Belmont Board of Trustees and philanthropists. The Honorary Host Committee reflects Belmont's commitment to ensuring the 2008 Town Hall Presidential Debate is truly representative of our community and state.

2008 Town Hall Presidential Debate Honorary Host Committee

Marty Dickens, Chair

Honorary Chairs

The Honorable Phil Bredesen, Governor, State of Tennessee

The Honorable Karl Dean, Mayor, City of Nashville

The Honorable Mike Curb, Chairman, Curb Records

Honorary Committee Members

Kent Adams, President, Caterpillar Financial Services

The Honorable Lamar Alexander, U.S. Senator

The Honorable Howard Baker

Lee Barfield, Partner, Bass, Berry & Sims

Lee Beaman, Chairman, Beaman Automotive Group

Belmont University Board of Trustees

The Honorable Marsha Blackburn, U.S. Congressman

Jack Bovender, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, Hospital Corporation of America

T. B. Boyd, Chairman, R. H. Boyd Company

The Honorable William Brock
Kix Brooks, Recording Artist
The Most Reverend Bishop David Raymond Choby, Diocese of Nashville
The Honorable Steve Cohen, U.S. Congressman
The Honorable Jim Cooper, U.S. Congressman
The Honorable Bob Corker, U.S. Senator
The Honorable David Davis, U.S. Congressman
The Honorable Lincoln Davis, U.S. Congressman
The Honorable Lois DeBerry, Speaker Pro Tempore, State Representative
Richard W. Dreiling, Chief Executive Officer, Dollar General
The Honorable John Duncan, Jr., U.S. Congressman
The Honorable Winfield Dunn
Keith Durbin, Metro Councilman
Steven J. Edelstein, Executive Director, Jewish Federation of Nashville and Middle Tennessee
J. D. Elliott, President, The Memorial Foundation
Mark Ezell, Chief Executive Officer, Purity Dairies
Doctor A.K.M. Fakhruddin, President, Islamic Center of Nashville
The Honorable Harold E. Ford, Jr., Chairman of Democratic Leadership Council
Darrell Freeman, Chairman, Nashville Chamber of Commerce
The Honorable Bill Frist
Tommy Frist, Business Leader
Rick Frost, Chief Executive Officer, Louisiana-Pacific Corporation (LP)
Joe Galante, Chairman, Sony BMG Nashville
Tammy Genovese, Chief Executive Officer, Country Music Association
Vince Gill, Recording Artist
The Honorable Brenda Gilmore, State Representative

Reverend Victor Gomez, President, Uno en Cristo
Randy Goodman, President, Country Music Association Board
The Honorable Bart Gordon, U.S. Congressman
The Honorable Al Gore
Amy Grant, Recording Artist
The Honorable Thelma Harper, State Senator
Cordia Harrington, Chief Manager, Tennessee Bun Company
The Honorable Beth Harwell, State Representative
Jim Haslam, Chairman, Pilot Corporation
The Honorable Joe Haynes, State Senator and Democratic Caucus Chairman
The Honorable Douglas Henry, State Senator
Martha Ingram, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, Ingram Industries
Gordon Inman, Business Leader
The Honorable Jack Johnson, State Senator
Ellen Lehman, President, The Community Foundation of Middle Tennessee
Steve McNair, Community Leader and Tennessee Titans Quarterback
The Honorable Ned McWherter
R. Clayton McWhorter, Founder and Chairman, Clayton Associates
The Honorable Gary Moore, State Representative
Gregg Morton, President, AT&T Tennessee
The Honorable Jimmy Naifeh, Speaker of the Tennessee House of Representatives
Tom Negri, General Manager, Loews Hotels
The Honorable Gary Odom, State House Majority Leader
Charles Overby, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, The Freedom Forum
Brian Philips, Executive Vice President, Country Music Television, Inc.
Dr. Claude Pressnell, President, Tennessee Independent Colleges and Universities Association

The Honorable Mary Pruitt, State Representative

The Honorable Ron Ramsey, Lt. Governor and Speaker of the Tennessee Senate

Colin Reed, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, Gaylord Entertainment

Barbara Massey Rogers, Philanthropist

Joe Russell, Chairman, Elan-Polo

The Honorable James M. Sasser

Ralph Schulz, Chief Executive Officer, Nashville Area Chamber of Commerce

John Seigenthaler, Chairman, The First Amendment Center

Reverend Doctor William J. Shaw, President, National Baptist Convention USA, Inc.

Tom Sherrard, Partner, Sherrard & Roe, PLC

Kelly Smith, Jr., Pastor, Mount Olive Baptist Church, Knoxville, Tennessee

Butch Spyridon, Chief Executive Officer, Nashville Convention and Business Bureau

John Stein, President, Bank of America Tennessee

The Honorable Don Sundquist

The Honorable John Tanner, U.S. Congressman

Deborah Tate, Business Leader

Reverend Edward Thompson, President, Interdenominational Ministers' Fellowship

Ken Thorpe, CEO, Partnership to Fight Chronic Disease

Byron Trauger, Partner, Trauger & Tuke

Cal Turner, Chairman, Cal Turner Family Foundation

The Honorable Mike Turner, State Representative

The Honorable Zach Wamp, U. S. Congressman

Ted Welch, Business Leader

The Honorable Ben West, State Representative

Michael A. Woodhouse, Chief Executive Officer, CBRL Group, Inc. (Cracker Barrel)

Nick Zeppos, Chancellor, Vanderbilt University



BELMONT UNIVERSITY DEBATE08 PROGRAMS

Belmont has scheduled a wide variety of special programs and events for the university and Nashville communities throughout the 2008-09 academic year. Our goal is to engage our students and neighbors in the democratic process and this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity the debate provides Belmont, Nashville and the state of Tennessee.

Your Voice Your Choice

August 27, 2008 - 5 p.m.

Curb Event Center

A partnership between Belmont, CMT and Headcount, Your Voice Your Choice features two headlining musical acts, a Battle of the Bands and the opportunity for students from Belmont and partner institutions to register to vote.

Dr. Tony Campolo

September 3, 2008 - 10 a.m.

Massey Performing Arts Center (MPAC)

Dr. Tony Campolo, a nationally celebrated speaker, the author of 35 books and a media commentator on religious, social and political matters, demonstrates how the "red letter" words of Jesus move us beyond the Republican/Democrat dichotomy and into a world where the crisis of AIDS, war and failing public schools can be tackled.

"Debate Camp" & "Game On": A Viewing & Discussion of Two Episodes of *The West Wing*

September 7, 2008 - 2 p.m.

Leu Center for the Visual Arts 114

Dr. Bonnie Smith and University Media Writer April Hefner (M.A. '07) discuss two episodes of *The West Wing* that focus on preparing for a presidential debate.

Please Argue With Me! A Summons to the Humanities Symposium

Dr. Bonnie Smith

September 8, 2008 - 10 a.m.

Massey Boardroom

Dr. Bonnie Smith delivers the first address of the Humanities Symposium, "Debate, Dissent & Dialogue."

One of the Greatest Debates in Western History: The Controversy of Valladolid

Dr. Natalia Pelaz

September 8, 2008 - 2 p.m.

Massey Boardroom

In 1550, two of the most relevant wise men of their time, De las Casas and Sepulveda, met at Valladolid (Spain) to debate about a topic that affected, and affects, millions of people.

"The Criticism of Honest Opponents" and Our Heritage of Dissent

Dr. David Curtis

September 8, 2008 - 5 p.m.

Belmont University Amphitheatre

Curtis discusses how U.S. writers have historically pursued dissent and how the responsibility to revive and preserve this heritage is incumbent upon all who would consider themselves citizens.

Debate, Dissent, Dialogue and Indirection: A Viewing of *Amazing Grace*

Dr. Maggie Monteverde and Michael Jackson

September 8, 2008 - 6:30 p.m.

Massey Boardroom

A discussion of the life of William Wilberforce and his fight to end the slave trade follows a viewing of the film *Amazing Grace*.

Faculty Concert Series: Zoro – Classic American Rock Drumming

September 8, 2008 - 7:30 p.m.

Massey Performing Arts Center (MPAC)

The opening Faculty Concert Series of Fall 2008 features internationally known "Zoro" in an evening of classic American rock drumming.

Willie Stark, the Voices of the People, and the Voices of Powerful

Professor Sue Trout

September 9, 2008 - 11 a.m.

Bunch Library Art Gallery

Professor Sue Trout discusses Robert Penn Warren's masterpiece, *All the King's Men*, especially how Willie Stark uses the "language of the people" and the "language of power."

Panel on Dissent and Debate in Nashville

September 9, 2008 - 4:30 p.m.

Leu Center for the Visual Arts 114

Local politicians and activists Larry Woods, Representative Beth Harwell, Eric Stansell (candidate for State House District 52) and WRVU talk show host Freddie O'Connell discuss how citizens debate, dissent and dialogue with one another on a variety of local issues. Reception 6-7 p.m. in the Leu Center for the Visual Arts Lobby.

The Cheating Culture: Ethics and Democracy

David Callahan

September 9, 2008 - 5 p.m.

Maddox Grand Atrium

David Callahan, author of *The Cheating Culture: Why More Americans Are Doing Wrong to Get Ahead*, makes a presentation on the importance of responsible values in dealing with the cheating culture, especially in this election year.

Extra Terrestrial: The Outsized Influence of Talk Radio in America's Political Discussion

Freddie O'Connell

September 9, 2008 - 7 p.m.

Leu Center for the Visual Arts (LCVA) Room 114

Freddie O'Connell, WRVU talk show host, discusses the phenomenon of talk radio in American politics.

Dissent in the Nixon Era

Dr. Jeff Coker and Dr. Peter Kuryla

September 10, 2008 - 4:30 p.m.

Bunch Library Art Gallery

Belmont historians Dr. Jeff Coker and Dr. Peter Kuryla discuss dissent in the Nixon era, paying special attention to the student and black power movements.

Reinventing Richard Nixon: Debating Cultural Values and National Identity

Dr. Daniel Frick

September 10, 2008 - 7 p.m.

Bunch Library Art Gallery

What motivates the national obsession with reinventing Richard Nixon in literature, film, cartoons, music and other media?

Telling National Stories: A Novel Way to Debate Argentina

Dr. Paulo Boero

September 11, 2008 - 2 p.m.

Frist Lecture Hall

As Argentina suffered and later emerged from the nightmare of its last military dictatorship, artists sought both to undermine the regime's monologic discourse of national identity and to promote more profound, humane conversations about Argentine identity and reality.

Jihad in Islam: The Creation of a Mujahid Identity in the Past and Present

Dr. Masood Raja

September 11, 2008 - 4:30 p.m.

Frist Lecture Hall

Dr. Masood Raja considers the historical, cultural and contemporary context of jihad and its complex relationship to Muslim politics, male subjectivity and global paradigms of power.

"Interesting Point": Pulp Fiction, Postmodern Philosophy and the Fine Art of Disagreement

Dr. Michael Berube

September 11, 2008 - 7 p.m.

Frist Lecture Hall

Dr. Michael Berube asks how people can find ways to agree to disagree - and suggests why people should agree to form societies in which such disagreement is possible.

Debate, Dissent & Dialogue Symposium Panel

September 12, 2008 - 10 a.m.

Frist Lecture Hall

Featured speakers Dr. Masood Raja, Dr. Daniel Frick and Dr. Michael Berube continue the discussion in a panel on the Humanities Symposium's themes of "Debate, Dissent & Dialogue".

Philologist and Philosophy Honor Students

September 12, 2008 - 2 p.m.

Frist Lecture Hall

Dr. Mark Anderson leads Philosophy students and others wishing to participate in a conversation about issues raised by the "Debate, Dissent & Dialogue" symposium.

Rock the Vote with Melinda Doolittle

September 13, 2008 - 2 p.m.

Lawn Between Wright Hall and the Maddox Grand Atrium at Belmont University

Rock the Vote and Press Here are joining forces to design and produce The Road Trip, a non-partisan, state of the art, mobile road show which will target key youth markets and encourage voter registration for the upcoming election. The Road Trip will begin at Belmont University with a performance from alumna and former "American Idol" contestant Melinda Doolittle.

Freedom Sings

September 13, 2008 - 7 p.m.

Massey Performing Arts Center (MPAC)

Freedom Sings, the brainchild of The Freedom Forum First Amendment Center, is a critically acclaimed multi-media experience featuring an all-star cast of musicians and an "only-in-America" story line.

"We Will Not Walk in Fear of One Another": *Good Night, and Good Luck* and Dissent in the Media

September 14, 2008 - 2 p.m.

Leu Center for the Visual Arts 114

Dr. Rich Tiner leads a discussion about dissent and the media after a viewing of *Good Night and Good Luck*.

Carillon Concert: Bells Over America

September 14, 2008 - 3 p.m.

Bell Tower

Please Argue Some More! A Wrap-Up of Debate, Dissent and Dialogue

September 15, 2008 - 10 a.m.

Massey Room 100

Dr. Maggie Monteverde leads faculty panelists and students in a conversation about "Debate, Dissent & Dialogue."

Race and Conservatism Convocation

Carol Swain

September 15, 2008 - 10 a.m.

Massey Business Center 200B

Political Scientist Carol Swain tackles issues of race and conservative politics.

'70s Rock – The Good, The Bad and The Ugly

Barry Drake

September 16, 2008 - 7 p.m.

Neely Dining Hall

Drake examines one of the most confusing, misunderstood and criticized decades in rock and roll history, the 1970s.

The American Empire and the Kingdom of God

Dr. Stanley Hauerwas

September 17, 2008 - 10 a.m.

Massey Performing Arts Center (MPAC)

Hauerwas looks at how a proper understanding of peace leads away from using violence to advance God's work in the world.

Why Do We Have Government?

September 17, 2008 - 10 a.m.

Wheeler Humanities Building 309

Why do we have government? The answer to this question drives our conceptions of what government should and should not do.

***Arabian Nights* (opening night)**

September 18, 2008 - 7:30 p.m.

Trout Theater

This adaptation offers a wonderful blend of the lesser-known tales from *Arabian Nights* with the recurring theme of how the magic of storytelling holds the power to change people.

Project Vote: Smart Bus

September 19, 2008 - 9:30 a.m.

Beaman Student Life Center and South Lawn

The Vote Smart mobile research center is a 45-foot bus equipped with a digital projection screen and 22 seats where visitors can watch a short video about Project Vote Smart.

International Politics Convocation

Tim Adgent

September 22, 2008 - 10 a.m.

Massey Business Center 100

BU political science alum Tim Adgent discusses his experiences in Middle Eastern affairs.

Why Should We Vote?

September 24, 2008 - 10 a.m.

Wheeler Humanities Building 309

Is our turnout rate really that low? Answering that question requires us to ask why, in the first place, we should vote.

The Media and Religion

Barbara Bradley Hagerty

September 24, 2008 - 10 a.m.

Barbara Bradley Hagerty, the religion correspondent for National Public Radio (NPR), will explore how the media reports – and misreports – the crucial interplay of faith and politics.

Pizza, Pop and Politics

Belmont Faculty

September 25, 2008 - 6 p.m.

Belmont faculty participate in a debate discussing hot topics surrounding the presidential election.

Ethical Responsibility in an Election Year: Is the Media Helping or Hurting?

September 26, 2008 - 10 a.m.

Frist Lecture Hall

This program features John Seigenthaler, award-winning journalist and Founder of the First Amendment Center, and John Seigenthaler, Jr., Partner and CEO, Seigenthaler Public Relations New York, and former NBC news anchor.

Why Kids Should Vote: Issues Affecting the Health and Education of Children

September 26, 2008 - 1 p.m.

Troutt Theater

This panel explores key legislative developments that impact children's health and education at both the state and federal levels.

Ole Miss Debate Watching Party

September 26, 2008 - 7 p.m.

Belmont Heights Baptist Church Sanctuary

Belmont students gather to watch the first presidential debate on the big screen.

Political Pursuits

September 29, 2008 - 10 a.m.

MBC 100

Hear an impressive panel of recent Belmont grads who are pursuing careers in politics.

Documentary Filmmaker Ken Burns Presents: Telling the American Stories

Ken Burns

September 30, 2008 - 7 p.m.

Massey Performing Arts Center (MPAC)

Burns addresses his approach to "history" and his perspective on the American experience and the following day will answer questions from students in a Q-and-A session.

Jesus for President

Shane Claiborne

October 1, 2008 - 10 a.m.

Neely Dining Hall

Claiborne demonstrates how identification with those on the margins of society can challenge us to live in both personal and political solidarity with the poor.

What I Wish to Say to the Future President

Sheryl Oring

October 1, 2008 - 10 a.m.

Oring performs via an interactive project with her audience – any Belmont student or personnel who may pass by. She sets up her table and typewriter and types postcards dictated by participants on what they wish to say to the future President.

Complete Schedule:

October 1, 10 a.m. - Artist's Lecture - Massey Concert Hall

October 1, Noon-2:30 p.m. - Performance - Gazebo

October 1, 4:30 p.m. - Gallery Talk - Leu Center for the Visual Arts (LCVA) 122

Tennessee and the Changing American Energy Landscape

October 3, 2008 - 4 p.m.

Troutt Theater

Join us for an evening to discuss how major energy-related institutions in Tennessee are responding to and helping resolve the energy challenges facing the world today. Panelists include Kelly Tiller (University of Tennessee-Knoxville), Thom Mason (Oak Ridge National Laboratory), Richard L. Driggans (Tennessee Valley Authority) and Mike Vandenberg (Vanderbilt University).

Man of the Year

October 9, 2008 - 6 p.m.

Massey Business Center 104

Ever wonder if the rules we use to elect our candidates matter? Come watch *Man of the Year* and find out!

Economics and the Environment: The Biofuel Controversy

Dr. Kelly Tiller

October 10, 2008 - 10 a.m.

Beaman Student Life Center A&B

Dr. Kelly Tiller, director of external relations, Office of Bioenergy Programs at the University of Tennessee, talks about the "Economics of the Environment."

Legacy of Suffrage: Women Role Models

Deana Claiborne

October 13, 2008 - 1 p.m.

Massey Boardroom

Deana Claiborne, past President of the League of Women Voters of Tennessee, will speak about women's right to vote.

Faculty Concert Series: Classical Piano Faculty Present American Piano Music

October 13, 2008 - 7:30 p.m.

Belmont Mansion

Belmont Symphony Orchestra Concert: American Classics, directed by Robert Gregg

October 14, 2008 - 7:30 p.m.

Massey Performing Arts Center (MPAC)

Belmont's 90-piece Symphony Orchestra, under the direction of Dr. Robert Gregg, presents an evening of American orchestral classics including "A Lincoln Portrait."

Swing Vote

October 16, 2008 - 8 p.m.

Beaman Student Life Center

Students are invited to a viewing of the Kevin Costner political film, *Swing Vote*.

Belmont Camerata Musicale Presents: The American Identity

October 20, 2008 - 7:30 p.m.

Belmont Mansion

Belmont's resident chamber orchestra present "The American Identity" that celebrates the creative spirit of great Americans: Benjamin Franklin, William Grant Still, Randall Thompson, Charles Ives, Samuel Barber, George Gershwin and Amy Beach.

Jazz Band and Jazz Band II Present Classic American Jazz

October 21, 2008 - 7:30 p.m.

Massey Performing Arts Center (MPAC)

Ethical Dilemmas: Power and Money

Cynthia Cooper

October 21, 2008 - 5 p.m.

Cynthia Cooper, WorldCom whistleblower, *Time* Magazine 2002 Person of the Year, and author of *Extraordinary Circumstances: The Journey of a Corporate Whistleblower* provides an insider's look at the rise and fall of WorldCom and share the lessons she learned through that experience.

Faith-Informed Political Science

Dr. Vaughn May

October 22, 2008 - 10 a.m.

Dr. Vaughn May, Belmont political science department chair, and members of the department explores issues of faith, politics and their role in a Christian university.

Biloxi Blues (opening night)

October 23, 2008 - 7:30 p.m.

Troutt Theater

The Neil Simon 1985 Tony Award winner for Best Play tells the story of a young army recruit during the Second World War who is learning about life as he goes through boot camp in Biloxi, Miss., in 1943.

Belmont Jazz Band: Classic American Jazz, directed by Jeff Kirk

October 24, 2008 - 7:30 p.m.

Massey Performing Arts Center (MPAC)

Belmont's "big band", under the direction of Dr. Jeff Kirk, presents a concert of classic American jazz.

First Year Seminar Speaker

James Loewen

October 28, 2008 - 10 a.m.

Massey Performing Arts Center

James Loewen wrote the best-selling *Lies My Teacher Told Me: Everything Your High School History Textbook Got Wrong*, in part a critique of existing textbooks, but also an account of American history as it should be taught.

How Would Jesus Vote?

Dr. Barbara Williams-Skinner

October 29, 2008 - 10 a.m.

Vince Gill Room

Barbara Williams-Skinner looks at the issues from a faith-based perspective.

America's Health Care Dilemma: A Dialogue on Solutions

October 30, 2008 - 10 a.m.

Frist Lecture Hall

This event is the first of a five-part series that will span from October to May on the global topic, Fixing America's Broken Healthcare System, in partnership with The Baker Center of the University of Tennessee (Knoxville).

The New President and the Politics of Faith

Melissa Rogers

November 5, 2008 - 10 a.m.

Neely Dining Hall

Melissa Rogers examines the major issues of faith and politics that the new president will be dealing with in the next four years.

The New Administration and the Economy: What Can We Expect?

Jonathan Wight

November 6, 2008 - 5 p.m.

Massey Board Room

Jonathan Wight, noted economist and author of *Saving Adam Smith: A Tale of Wealth, Transformation, and Virtue*, discusses expectations of a new administration in the White House two days after the election.

A Celebration of American Music

November 7, 2008 - 7:30 p.m.

Massey Performing Arts Center (MPAC)

Oratorio Chorus, the University Symphony Orchestra and regional high school choirs present a program of American composers with guest conductor Dr. Eph Ehly.

Faculty Concert Series: Commercial Voice Faculty Present

American Popular Songs

November 10, 2008 - 7:30 p.m.

Massey Performing Arts Center (MPAC)

Commercial Voice faculty Brice Bennett, Sandra Dudley, Kathryn Paradise, Henry Smiley and Jamie Wiggenton present a showcase of American popular song.

***As It Is In Heaven* - by Arlene Hutton**

The Belmont Theatre Company

November 13, 2008 - 8 p.m.

Trout Theater

"A moving portrayal of upheaval caused when the utopian existence of an 1830's Shaker community in Kentucky is threatened by the arrival of 'newcomers' claiming to see angels... powerful and insightful... a thought-provoking piece, the message being that often we need not look as far as heaven to see angels here on earth..."

Showtimes: November 13, 14, 20 and 21 at 8 p.m. November 15, 16, 22 and 23 at 2:30 p.m.

***Ragtime* (opening night)**

November 21, 2008 - 7:30 p.m.

Massey Performing Arts Center (MPAC)

Ragtime, based on the E.L. Doctorow novel, mixes real life historical figures and fictional characters to tell the story of America in the early decades of the 20th century.

The Seven Futures

Erik Peterson

February 11, 2009 - 10 a.m.

Beaman Student Life Center A&B

Erik Peterson visits from the Center for Strategic and International Studies, a Washington D.C. think tank. The SEVEN FUTURES project assesses the defining outlines of the world in the year 2025 by examining the "alternative futures" of seven key regions of the world.

Historian David McCullough Presents: Beginning a Presidency

David McCullough

March 19, 2009 - 7 p.m.

David McCullough, a best-selling author and one of America's most distinguished historians, discusses the new presidency in its first 100 days and places it in a larger historical context.

Making Conservation Work for People

Peter Kareiva

March 24, 2009 - 7 p.m.

Massey Boardroom

Dr. Peter Kareiva, chief scientist at The Nature Conservancy, will talk about "Making Conservation Work for People" - everything from clean water and flood control to fiber from forests and fish from aquatic ecosystems.



DEBATE CITY-WIDE SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

In anticipation of the Town Hall Presidential Debate on Tuesday, Oct. 7, Belmont University has scheduled activities in conjunction with many of our community partners to celebrate the occasion for residents of Nashville and members of the media.

Youth Presidential Debate 2008

October 1, 2008 - 7 p.m.

The Parthenon

Public and non-public schools from around the Nashville area will host the Youth Presidential Debate 2008. Montgomery Bell Academy, along with the Mayor's Youth Council, and The Parthenon, will conduct a debate where the students ask the questions. The event will be moderated by John Seigenthaler, Sr., along with prominent politicians representing the presidential campaigns.

www.montgomerybell.edu

Rodin: A Magnificent Obsession, Sculpture from the Iris and B. Gerald Cantor Foundation

October 3, 2008 - 10 a.m.

The Frist Center for the Visual Arts

Admission: Free

www.fristcenter.org

International Bluegrass Music Association Fan Fast

October 3-5

October 3, 2008 - 11 a.m.

Nashville Convention Center

Bluegrass music's annual three-day "homecoming" festival features over 60 headline performances from Vince Gill, Kathy Mattea, Doyle Lawson, The Grascals and many others.

Friday, Oct. 3, 11 a.m. - 11:30 p.m.

Saturday, Oct. 4, 11 a.m. - 11:30 p.m.

Sunday, Oct. 5, 9 a.m. - Noon

Admission:

Free to journalists with valid press credentials

www.ibma.org/events.programs/wob/fanfest.asp

Southbound (Belmont University's country music ensemble)

October 3, 2008 - 3 p.m.

Nashville International Airport

www.belmont.edu/music/ensembles/southbound.html

Monuments to the Pres(id)ent

October 3, 2008 - 6 p.m.

Snow Gallery

As an outgrowth of the Presidential Debates, Snow Gallery will be showing new works by Los Angeles-based artist Tucker Neel juxtaposed with period engravings by the 18th century artists and cartoonist William Hogarth and Giovanni Battista Piranesi.

Opening Reception 6-8 p.m.; also open Monday-Saturday, 11 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Admission: Free | www.snowgallery.net

Wine Bar and Performance by Wayne Avers

October 3, 2008 - 6 p.m.

Frist Center for the Visual Arts Grand Lobby

Admission: Free | www.fristcenter.org

Nashville Symphony presents McCoy Tyner Quartet, part of the Adams & Reese Jazz Series

October 3, 2008 - 8 p.m.

Schermerhorn Symphony Center

Tickets: \$50-\$100. | www.nashvillesymphony.org

Vote For Me! Political Memorabilia from the Ronnie Steine Collection

October 4, 2008 - 9 a.m.

Nashville Public Library - Courtyard Gallery, Second Floor

An exhibition of political memorabilia collected by councilperson-at-large Ronnie Steine gives historical perspective to presidential elections held in the United States during the 19th, 20 and 21st centuries, with posters, campaign buttons and other artifacts of our nation's most memorable election seasons dating back to 1844.

Admission: Free | www.library.nashville.org/

Civil Rights Room

October 4, 2008 - 9 a.m.

Nashville Public Library - Nashville Room, Second Floor

The current site of the Main Library is where the city launched a nonviolent protest against segregated lunch counters and other public accommodations over 50 years ago. The exhibit includes a list of "10 rules of conduct" carried by the protesters, a timeline of significant local and national events during the civil rights era and large photographs of dramatic events in this period of Nashville history.

Admission: Free | www.library.nashville.org

Nashville Symphony's Regions Free Day of Music (sponsored by Regions Bank)

October 4, 2008 - 10 a.m. - 10 p.m.

Schermerhorn Symphony Center

www.nashvillesymphony.org

Declaration of Independence Tour

October 4, 2008 - 10 a.m.

Nashville Public Library Reading Room (Fourth Floor)

An original copy of the Declaration of Independence will be on display at the Nashville Public Library Sat., October 4 - Mon., October 6

Admission: Free | www.library.nashville.org

12th Annual Celebration of Cultures Festival presented by Nashville Metro Parks and Recreation & Scarritt-Bennett Center

October 4, 2008 - 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.

Centennial Park

A fun-filled day of music, dance, art, food, children's activities, a marketplace and an educational component known as "The Villages" that gives an authentic glimpse of daily life in over 13 different countries.

Hours: 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.

Parthenon Hours: 9 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Admission: Free

Free shuttles will be available to and from "Nashville Symphony's Regions Free Day of Music." www.celebrationofcultures.org

Curator's Exhibit Talk: Family Tradition: The Williams Family Legacy, Co-Presented by SunTrust and Ford Motor Company

October 4, 2008 - 10:30 a.m.

Country Music Hall of Fame and Museum

Museum curators will offer a 45-minute introduction to the Country Music Hall of Fame and Museum's new exhibit, which explores the personal lives of country music legends Hank Williams and Hank Williams, Jr.

Admission: Free to journalists with valid press credentials. | www.countrymusichalloffame.com

Songwriter Session

Mark Germino

October 4, 2008 - 11:30 a.m.

Country Music Hall of Fame and Museum

Mark Germino, a Nashville veteran, has written songs for Johnny Cash, Vince Gill, Emmylou Harris, Kathy Mattea and Gillian Welch, among many others.

Admission: Free to journalists with press credentials. | www.countrymusichalloffame.com

Belmont Jazz at the Frist

October 4, 2008 - 1 p.m.

Frist Center for the Visual Arts Grand Lobby

Jazz vocalist Bruce Bennett, and jazz pianist, Anthony Belfiglio, both professional jazz musicians and Belmont faculty members, will be performing in the Grand Lobby at the Frist Center for the Visual Arts.

Admission: Free | www.fristcenter.org

Interview and Performance: Holly Williams

October 4, 2008 - 1:30 p.m.

Country Music Hall of Fame and Museum

The granddaughter of the late country music icon Hank Williams and the daughter of influential star Hank Williams Jr., Holly Williams continues the family tradition by drawing on personal experiences to create bold yet intimate songs about loved ones and the modern world in which she resides. Admission: Free to journalists with press credentials. | www.countrymusichalloffame.com

Pam Weston (keyboardist)

October 4, 2008 - 3:30 p.m.

Frist Center for the Visual Arts Grand Lobby

www.fristcenter.org

Art at the Arcade - Nashville's Downtown Art Crawl featuring the "Belmont Steel Drum Ensemble"

October 4, 2008 - 6 p.m.

The Arcade

The first Saturday of the month, art galleries host receptions and art openings in and around the Arcade, one of Nashville's infamous and unique locations. The Arcade became Nashville's first shopping center in 1903 and was once home to some of the city's finest retail stores. While you make your way through the extraordinary exhibits in and around a Nashville landmark, enjoy listening to the "Belmont Steel Drum Ensemble" under the direction of Todd London.

Admission: Free | www.artatthearcade.com

Hot Off the Press: New Political BroadSides

October 5, 2008 - 3 p.m.

Snow Gallery

Snow Gallery will co-host an exhibition of works by artists Janet Higgins, Nancy Cooley and Tucker Neel, all printed on the reproduction of the 18th-century Franklin Press at the James E. Walker Library at Middle Tennessee State University.

Admission: Free | www.snowgallery.net

Vesper Service

October 5, 2008 - 4 p.m.

Christ Church Cathedral

Belmont University invites the media to a vesper service at Christ Church Cathedral where Belmont University President, Dr. Robert Fisher, will be presiding. Reverend David Beckmann, founder of the Alliance to End Hunger and President of Bread for the World, one of the largest organizations in the world dedicated to ending hunger, will speak.

Admission: Free | www.belmont.edu

Grand Ole Opry at the Ryman

October 5, 2008 - 7 p.m.

Ryman Auditorium

Country music artists and Belmont alums Brad Paisley, Josh Turner, Trisha Yearwood and Julie Roberts will perform at the historic Ryman Auditorium.

Tickets: Invitation only; Media welcome with credentials | www.ryman.com

Civility Forum

October 6, 2008 - 1 p.m.

Troutt Theater

Tennessee Governor Phil Bredesen and First Lady Andrea Conte, joined by Belmont University, former Senator Howard Baker and the University of Tennessee's Baker Center for Public Policy, the Freedom Forum First Amendment Center and the Tennessee Business Roundtable, are hosting a forum on civil discourse in American politics.

Health Reform Panel Discussion

October 7, 2008 - 7 a.m.

Vanderbilt Marriott Ballroom

Leading national political experts will discuss how health reform is being addressed in the 2008 presidential election at a Nashville Health Care Council event on October 7. This invitation-only panel discussion will feature policy pundits Dick Morris, John Podesta, Chris Jennings, Chip Kahn and moderator U.S. Senator Bill Frist, M.D.

2008 SHOUTAmerica Health Care Leadership Conference

October 7, 2008 - 9 a.m.

Scarritt-Bennett Center

Only blocks from where the presidential candidates will square off on the evening of October 7, student government leaders will learn about health care and ensure their voices are heard. The summit will be facilitated by the knowledge of leaders in local and national politics including Rhodes Scholar and sitting Congressman Jim Cooper and U.S. Senator Bob Corker.

DEBATE08 SPONSORS

Belmont University is proud to host the 2008 Town Hall Presidential Debate. The commitment of our generous sponsors ensures that this historic event will be a great success to our university, Nashville and the state of Tennessee.

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Our Debate08 Partners generously contributed their services and resources to ensure this special event's success. We thank them immensely for their time and cooperation with Belmont – Tennessee's Volunteer spirit continues to shine brightly!

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Dennis Alpert

Belmont-Hillsboro Neighbors

Denver and the Mile High Orchestra

Frist Center for the Visual Arts

The Howard Baker, Jr. Center for Public Policy

The Freedom Forum First Amendment Center at Vanderbilt University

Metropolitan Nashville Airport Authority

Cynthia Morin

The Office of the Honorable Al Gore

The Ogden Museum of Southern Art

Brad Paisley

Julie Roberts

Schermerhorn Symphony Center

The Arts Company

The Tennessee Business Roundtable

Tennessee Democratic Party

Tennessee Republican Party

Josh Turner

Trisha Yearwood

UNIVERSITY PARTNERS

A task force of faculty and staff from colleges and universities in Middle Tennessee formed to create several opportunities for city-wide learning centered on Belmont's role as Town Hall Presidential Debate host site. While Belmont is in the unique role of host site for the debate, this consortium with other schools celebrates the opportunity this debate offers Nashville and Tennessee – an occasion never before experienced in the city or state that has produced three American presidents (Andrew Jackson, James K. Polk and Andrew Johnson).

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UNIVERSITY PARTNERS DEBATE08 EVENTS

Tokens: The Politics of Jesus

September 2, 2008 - 9 p.m.
Shamblin Theater, Lipscomb University

Al Staggs

September 11, 2008 - 7 p.m.
Shamblin Theatre, Lipscomb University

ThinkFast Game Show

September 29, 2008 - 12:15 p.m.
Volunteer State Community College, Wood Campus Center

Jesus for President

Shane Claiborne
September 29, 2008 - 7 p.m.
Collins Alumni Auditorium, Lipscomb University

BELMONT UNIVERSITY ADMINISTRATION, FACULTY & STAFF

A very special thank you is due to the following members of the Belmont community, who have worked tirelessly to ensure Debate08 at Belmont is a smashing success and unforgettable moment in our university's history. Your commitment to Belmont does not go unnoticed. We are grateful you are a part of our family. Be proud of all you have accomplished in this amazing year at Belmont.

Maria Allen	Frank Baird	Jon Blankenship
Tracie Allen	Mike Bannon	Beth Brewster
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Glenda Dahlhauser	Charles Harper	Todd Lake
Jimmy Davis	Sandra Haynes	Steve Lasley
Lisa Davis	Pam Hazelwood	April Lyons

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**And anyone else who helped
make Belmont Debate08 possible!*

★ THE COMMISSION ON PRESIDENTIAL DEBATES

The CPD was established in 1987 to ensure that the debates provide the best possible information to viewers and listeners. Its primary purpose is to sponsor and produce debates for the United States leading presidential and vice presidential candidates and to undertake research and educational activities relating to the debates. The nonprofit, nonpartisan organization sponsored all the general election debates in 1988, 1992, 1996, 2000 and 2004.

★ BELMONT UNIVERSITY

Belmont University, host of the 2008 Town Hall Presidential Debate, is a fast-growing community of more than 5,000 students who come from almost every state and more than 25 countries. *U.S. News & World Report* named Belmont one of the top two schools in the nation to watch in 2009 for its innovation and creativity. Committed to being a leader among teaching universities, Belmont brings together the best of liberal arts and professional education in a Christian community of learning and service. Our purpose is to help students explore their passions and develop their talents to meet the world's needs. With more than 75 areas of study, 12 master's programs and three doctoral degrees, there is no limit to the ways Belmont University can expand an individual's horizon.



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